

COUNTRY

REPORT

TOPIC: General Military Information

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 31 March 1953

REFERENCES

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PAGES

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At 0:45 a.m. on 21 March 1953, about 18 to 20 guns were 76.2-mm guns; about 30 trucks, 2 field kitchens, and 5 to 6 boxcarloads of troops were entrained in Genthin and left toward Magdeburg.¹ At 0:10 a.m. on 21 March, about 10 x 150-mm guns, about 10 prime movers, 12 trucks, and 7 to 8 boxcarloads of troops were entrained in Burg and left toward Magdeburg.²

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2. At about 8 a.m. on 17 March, about 50 to 70 prime movers, towing an undetermined number of 150-mm to 170-mm guns, passed through Potsdam, coming from the direction of Werder and proceeding toward Saarmund.³

3. On 13 March, an undetermined number of AT and infantry guns; and an undetermined number of trucks were loaded on each 6 flatcars with sideracks; and an undetermined number of troops was loaded on 10 boxcars, in Stendal. The units probably came from the Albrecht-der-Baer Kaserne and left toward Magdeburg.⁴ On 17 March, 15 boxcarloads of troops were entrained and an undetermined number of trucks were loaded on 14 flatcars with sideracks at the Stendal railroad station:

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The shipment left toward Wittenberge.⁵

4. Between 10 a.m. and noon on 16 March, about 50 prime movers, each towing a 122-mm field gun; about 100 trucks occupied by a total of 800 troops and loaded with billeting equipment; 3 ambulances, at least 5 radio trucks; 1 jeep, 4 field kitchens, and 5 prime movers

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towing van-like trailers were seen passing through Beelitz toward Trebbin. On 20 March, a train consisting of 9 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 13 x 122-mm field guns, about 15 prime movers, about 18 to 20 trucks with covered numbers, 1 radio truck, 1 ambulance, 1 sedan, 1 jeep, and 2 field kitchens, passed through the Beelitz railroad station, coming from the direction of Jueterbog and proceeding toward Wildpark.³ On 21 March, a train consisting of about 13 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying about 30 x 160-mm mortars, 25 to 30 trucks

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14 jeeps and 4 field kitchens passed through Beelitz, coming from the direction of Wildpark and proceeding toward Jueterbog.⁶ At about 12:30 p.m. on 21 March, about 15 tank trucks

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towing trailers passed through Beelitz, coming from the direction of Potsdam and proceeding toward Jueterbog. At about 12:15 p.m. on 21 March, a train consisting of about 12 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 16 x 160-mm mortars, 3 rocket launchers, about 12 trucks,

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and 1 sedan passed through Beelitz, coming from the direction of Jueterbog and proceeding toward Wildpark.⁷ At about 4 p.m. on 21 March, a train consisting of 13 boxcars which were occupied by about 350 troops; and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 9 x 37-mm AA guns, about 13 trucks, 1 sedan, 1 jeep, 1 radio truck, 1 ambulance and 1 small one-axle vanlike trailer, was loaded at the Jueterbog-Altes Lager railroad station.

5. During the night of 19 March, about 30 x 122-mm field howitzers, 4 radio trucks, 2 tank trucks and 4 field kitchens

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left the Infanterie Kaserne and the Pionier Kaserne in Rathenow. Prior to 19 March, training and preparations for the departure of the troops had been observed in the Infanterie Kaserne.

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About 30 percent of the windows of the barracks buildings were lighted after nightfall. Prior to 19 March troops receiving instruction on 122-mm field howitzers and 76.2-mm AT guns, and engaged in driving school practice, in the Pionier Kaserne.

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About 30 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted at dusk. Prior to 19 March, driving school practice was observed in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne.

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After 20 March, about 30 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted at dusk. On 20 March, the Ziethen Kaserne was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

On 17 March, a truck was observed picking up 800 hectoliters of fuel at the Nordbahnhof (railroad station) in Rathenow.⁹

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6. On 13 March, SU-249 guns and 4 JS-3 tanks, were entrained at the Satz Korn railroad station. The shipment was attached to 5 boxcars with which 2 officers

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and 3 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Trucks [redacted]
[redacted] were on the loading ramp.10

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1. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] artillery units of the Third Shock Army stationed in Magdeburg, possibly of the 19th Mecz Div, which returned to their post, presumably coming from firing practices at Altengrabow.
2. [redacted] Comment. Probably units of the 304th Arty Brig (US) of the LXXX Mtz Rifle Corps, which may have gone to Altengrabow. 25X1
3. [redacted] Comment. The units observed on 16 and 17 March, probably belonged to the 34th Arty Div (US) and went to Jueterbog. [redacted] The units observed on 20 March are fairly definitely believed to have been elements of the division which returned to their post, coming from firing practice at Jueterbog. 25X1
4. [redacted] Comment. Presumably units of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div.
5. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] units of the Third Shock Army.
6. [redacted] Comment. The train carried artillery units of the Second Gds Mecz Army. 25X1
7. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] artillery units of the 12th Gds Tank Div.
8. [redacted] Comment. The entraining may have involved light AAA units of the 63d AAA Div (US) stationed in Fuerstenwalde which, on 1 March, had gone to Jueterbog and, [redacted] returned to their post on 21 March. 25X1
9. [redacted] Comment. The information indicates that the 65th Mort Brig (US) stationed in the Infanterie Kaserne, the 18th How Arty Frig (US) stationed in the Pionier Kaserne, and the 25th RL Brig stationed in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne left their installations on 19/20 March, presumably for Altengrabow.
10. [redacted] Comment. This entraining of tank firing details of the 10th Gds Tank Div for Letzling Heath was previously reported. [redacted] 25X1

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